

THE CHARITON COURIER.

C. P. VANDIVER, Ed. and Prop.

KEYTESVILLE, - MISSOURI.

The town of Curryville on the C. & A. railroad, in Pike county, was almost destroyed by fire on Thursday night of last week. There was very little insurance.

The total number of immigrants who arrived in this country during the last nine months was 153,177 against 218,724 during the same period in 1894. The reason of the great falling off during the last year is said to be caused to some extent by the war in the far East.

We talk of there being profit in raising hogs and sheep, in horses and cattle, in small fruits and orcharding, but success is in the man and not in the business, for do we not find men who are successful in every business and men who are not? When one finds himself in a business that doesn't pay he had better ask himself a question or two.

St. Louis authorities have adopted the Detroit plan to give work to idle men in the cultivation of vacant lots in and about the city to vegetables for family use. The Detroit plan proved a success last year and was not expensive to the city. St. Louis starts the initiative by having the lots plowed and made ready for the seeds, which, of course, will prove a great help to the poor people who cultivate them.

EARLY last Sunday morning two negro men and three negro women were lynched by an angry mob near Greenville, Alabama. The victims of the mob were charged with the brutal murder of a prominent young white man, whose body they burned to conceal the crime. One of the negroes confessed, and an examination of the place where they burned the man's body disclosed the teeth, liver and heart, which for some reason failed to burn.

The following pertinent paragraph is taken from an editorial in the Chicago Times-Herald:

In proportion as the Democratic party keeps close to the people, giving each of its constituents a voice in its management, it is successful. Whenever it yields to bossism it fails. The primary steps toward the overthrow of bossism are to debar officeholders from membership in the governing body, and to turn over to the ward clubs the privilege of selecting the representatives of the ward in the central committee.

DURING the reign of a high protective tariff in this country did any one ever hear of a shipment of iron, manufactured in the United States, being made to any other country? The sale of 5,000 tons of southern foundry iron was made recently in England and will be shipped at an early day. It is also said that American manufacturers of clothing have been boarding the British lion in his den, and are underselling the English manufacturers on the same quality of goods, and that the English are considerably exercised over the turn matters have taken.

THERE is a growing discontent in this state against our jury system because it, as constituted at present, assists in piling up criminal costs which have grown to enormous proportions. Under our statute it takes 12 men to constitute a jury, and there must be unanimous agreement before a verdict can be rendered. The frequent "hanging" of juries and consequent mistrial of cases, suggest an inquiry as to a better, less costly and surer way of shortening litigation. It is not an easy task to get 12 men on a jury now-a-days that are the same way of thinking on any subject, much less on questions of "law and evidence" upon which lawyers and courts disagree. As a remedy for the evil, some persons are suggesting the adoption of the Democratic idea with our juries, viz: Of letting a majority rule in reaching a verdict. A bare majority, we think, would hardly be right, but the agreement of nine members out of 12 would be better, and answer every purpose that a unanimous decision would answer. There would be no danger attending the majority plan, for if a decision were rendered that did not accord with the law and the testimony, the judge could, and most likely would, set the verdict aside—a duty sometimes incumbent upon him, even under our present system.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch correspondent at Jefferson City has made the startling discovery that Senator O'Bannon's son, though a Republican, got a clerical position in the state senate last winter, and that three Democrats got places in the Republican house, and that two of the last named were from Jasper county and were recommended by Flannigan, an ex-Republican representative, and one of the chief lobbyists of the 38th general assembly. We do not pretend to say that the mere obliteration of party lines in the appointment of clerks of the legislature was wrong in itself, but it is something out of the ordinary, and is calculated to arouse suspicion, as in the case of Senator O'Bannon's son, who was given a place under an assumed name, and in case of Fitzpatrick of the clerical force of the house and a brother of a prominent railroad man that "signs passes."

AN IRREPRESSIBLE CONFLICT.

We have no doubt there are many Republican politicians that are trying to steer clear of the financial rock upon which there occurred a big divide in the Democratic party. The silver question threatens to be about as troublesome to them as it has been to Democrats. So far as congress is concerned, the Republicans will soon be in the saddle, and there being such a near agreement between many of their leaders and Mr. Cleveland on many features of finance, the country will expect them to show their hand at legislation by which they intend to bring relief to the country.

The opportunity will be given them in the next congress to do something.

There are free silver advocates among them in both houses and they will be heard when congress convenes.

Senator Dan Voorhees, the tall sycamore Democrat of Indiana has come out emphatically and unequivocally for the free coinage of silver. In the initial paragraph of his speech we have the following: "I do not regret the agitation of the silver question. Sooner or later it has to be definitely settled whether the laboring, producing people of this country can be bullied out of one half of their debt-paying money named and provided in the constitution—gold and silver both, not one of the precious metals alone, but both, and on terms and conditions as to coinage and use of absolute equality. That is the question immediately before us, and no better time than now will ever be found for its settlement."

Governor Stone has appointed the following named gentlemen to be additional circuit judges of the courts of St. Louis, as authorized by the law passed last winter, to-wit: Thos. A. Russell, John M. Wood and Thos. B. Harvey. Having been attorney-general of this state Mr. Wood is well and favorably known. The two other gentlemen have been practitioners at the St. Louis bar for a number of years, and are of recognized ability.

Six months in the workhouse and a fine of \$500 is the penalty Henry W. Chandler of St. Louis will pay for ruining the domestic happiness of James F. Coyle, so determined by Judge Murphy who tried the case in St. Louis last Tuesday. This sort of a sentence is "bad medicine" to "gay Lotharios," who deceive and seduce silly women and destroy what otherwise might be happy homes.

"FOR WHOSE PROFIT?"

Under the above caption the *Marceline Journal* of last week asked a question prefaced as follows:

"We have a few questions to ask those papers that are advocating the free coinage 16 to 1 cause, and we ask them in all sincerity out of a profound sense of our ignorance and need of instruction. . . . The question is just this: If we are to have free coinage, whose silver is to be coined? All the mints working full time can only coin four or five millions of silver dollars per month. There are hundreds of millions of silver bullion in this country and the rest of the world, and the owners of it will be all clamoring for precedence at the mints. Some of them will be lucky enough to get in, but the great majority of them will have to wait—perhaps for years."

The question is a plain one, couched in respectful language, and while we do not pretend to be familiar with many matters concerning the finances of the government, we think the question as stated is easy of solution. The question itself presupposes the fact that a free coinage measure in the United States would authorize all the silver bullion-holding people of the whole world to bring their bullion to this country and have it coined, free of charge, into American coin. This will not necessarily be the case. Most likely if our people adopt a free coinage measure it will only prepare the way for the coinage of so much of the product of American silver mines as the owners wish to have coined, hence our mints will not be crowded to that extent feared by the *Journal*.

Then, again, there is no limit as to the number of mints we shall have. If we need more of them to expedite the coinage of our gold and silver bullion, congress has the right to establish them, but if there are objections to the establishment of more mints, congress can issue silver certificates as it has done heretofore and deal them out to the owners of bullion who do not want to wait their turn to have it coined.

The question that concerns us most is, do we need to have silver coined as a money in this country? If so, let us go about it and not shrink from it because of some imaginary trouble that flaunts itself into our faces in advance of the work to be done.

As Cleveland has intimated, the fight is on, and the question will not down till effectually settled one way or the other.

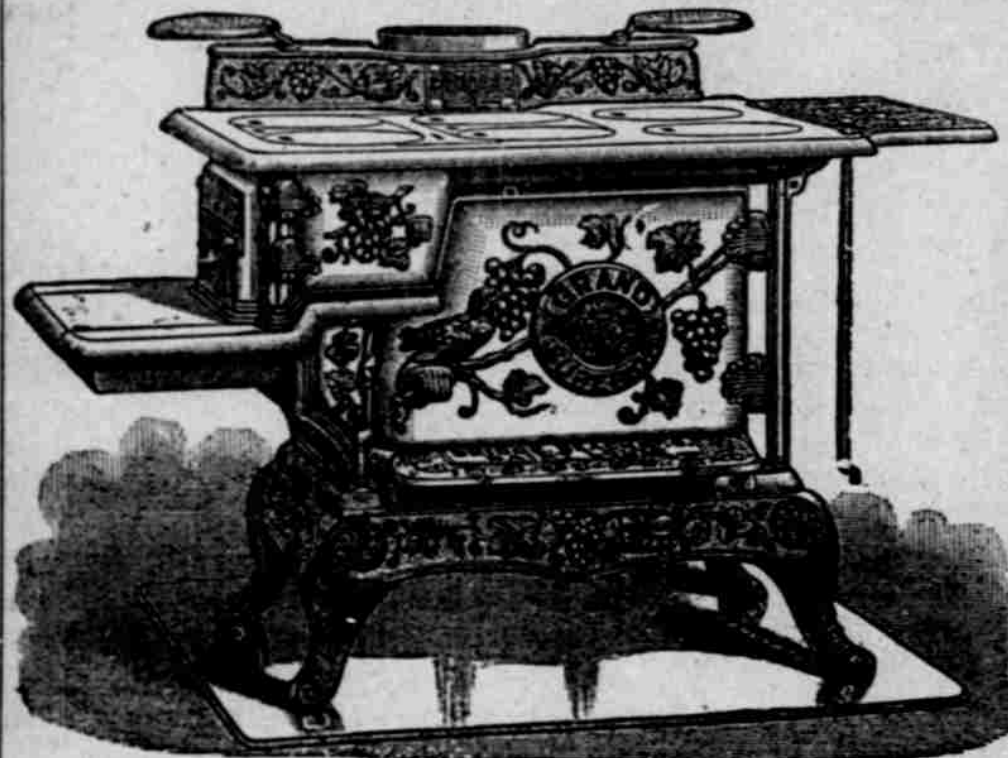
In St. Joseph Sunday night Ernest M. Tracey, a well-known contractor, who once in awhile indulges in liquor, was found lying on the pavement on a back street in an unconscious condition. The policeman who discovered him supposed that he had been drinking and sent him to the police station, where he was locked up. Monday morning he was found still unconscious, and the city physician who examined him found that his skull was fractured. It was then discovered that he had been assaulted and robbed. Tracey at last accounts was reported to be dying.

Senator Brice of Ohio, another millionaire Democrat, announces that he is "an out and out monometallist." Of course, he is. No one, we suppose, ever suspected his being anything else. He is not of the silver way of thinking, for it does not suit his kind. After his present time expires it will be a long time before he or his kind will represent Ohio in the United States senate again.

Chris Masterson, a bar-tender in a saloon at Sixth and Elm streets, St. Louis, was murdered by thieves early Monday morning. His skull was crushed, having been struck several blows on the head with an iron bar. Detectives were put to work to find the murderers, but had discovered no clue at last accounts.

Major John B. Breathitt of Saline county, ex-railroad commissioner, has been appointed by Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith a special agent for the land office.

HARDWARE Is a necessity. When you need anything in that line see W. D. Vaughan before buying. He sells the "Nancy Hanks" Force Pumps for shallow or deep wells; two brass cylinders throw a continual stream. Easiest working pump on the market; satisfaction guaranteed. Superior cook stoves, fire backs warranted 15 yrs; all other castings warranted 12 months; satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.



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W. D. VAUGHAN, Keytesville, Mo.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The extra session of the Missouri legislature is in a fair way for a dead-lock on the elections bill. With indecent haste the lower house passed what is known as the Filley bill and sent it to the senate. The senate, at this writing, has under consideration and will no doubt pass what is known as the "committee of safety bill." This is a non-partisan measure, prepared by 100 citizens of St. Louis, and is regarded as a safe measure to protect the ballot and to secure fair elections and honest counts, and being only applicable to St. Louis and Kansas City, it is reasonable to conclude that the good people of those cities know best as to their needs, and for this reason this measure should be passed without delay.

In reference to the "fellow-servant" law, which the governor asked the legislature to consider, several bills have been prepared, but whether either of them will become a law is exceedingly doubtful. A general fellow-servant's law is favored by some of the members, who will not support a measure that applies only to railroads, while other corporations go free.

A committee has been appointed in the lower house to look after and report members of the legislature and state officials who ride on passes tendered them by railroad officials, but the probability is it will prove to be an investigation that didn't investigate, for the reason that it is alleged against the chairman (Hammond) of that committee that he is one of the chief offenders in this regard. It has been suggested that the true "inwardness" of this pass business will never be known, and the best and shortest way to settle the matter would be to require each member to swear that he had not traveled on a railroad pass, and a refusal to take such oath to be taken as *prima facie* evidence of guilt.

Dispatches from Washington say that the Nicaraguan government has formally decided to accede to the compromise proposition of the settlement of the pending troubles between her and Great Britain, which is to pay the latter \$77,500 as soon as the British ships shall leave the harbor of Corinto. Whether Great Britain will accept the proposition or insist that the money be paid before withdrawing the ships is not known.

The absconding defaulter, ex-Collector Hall of Buchanan county, has been located at Los Angeles, California, and ere this has been returned to St. Joseph for trial. The county court of Buchanan county offered a reward of \$300 for his capture and return.

Beggs' German Salve.

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C. C. PARKS, Manager, Keytesville, Mo.

At a caucus composed of Democratic members of the legislature held in Jefferson City Monday, a resolution was passed favoring the coinage of silver by a vote of 22 to 9. There were four members present that did not vote and 20 absentees, some of whom were dodging the issue no doubt.

We would kindly make mention of the fact to our city fathers that some of Keytesville's sidewalks are in a dilapidated condition, and though the city has heretofore escaped vexatious law suits on account of broken limbs caused by defective sidewalks, we might not be so fortunate in the future.